

ON GUARD

163d RECONNAISSANCE WING (ANG) MARCH ARB, CALIFORNIA

March 2010

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**Spring Fling This UTA
See Back Page**

What's inside:

Commander's Column - page 2

Unit Receives New Vice CC and MXG CC - page 2

Brig. Gen. Kight takes command of Calif. NG - page 3

Grizzlies Give Vets Early Valentines - page 4

Headquarters Receives New First Shirt - page 5

Customer Service Changes Hours - page 6

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger named Air Force Brig. Gen. Mary J. Kight as the new adjutant general of the California National Guard, during a ceremony at Mather Air Field in Sacramento, Calif., on Feb. 2, 2010. During the ceremony, he described her as a proven, courageous, loyal and honorable leader. (Photo by Brandon Honig, California National Guard) (Illustration by Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette)

Vice Commander says “Thank You” to unit

Col. W. Bruce Stewart

163d Reconnaissance Wing Vice Commander

When Colonel Ball asked me to write the Commander's Column this month, I was delighted with the opportunity. This gave me a chance to tell each member of the unit, thanks for all the tremendous support that I have received over the many years of assignment. And, I want to do just that. I did not get to this position alone. I had a support system of friends, co-workers and family. I have been blessed and privileged by God with a measure of success and blessed by the many personnel that I have worked for and with along the way, who have molded, guided and mentored me. So ‘Thank You’ to each of you.

I often tell our new members at the newcomer briefing, a story about coming to the wing as an Airman in 1968, well before most of them were born and what it has been like to watch the wing transform and change to the organization it is today. When I say that they have joined the very best Air National Guard Flying Wing in the United States, I truly believe it. And our history bears this out, with the numerous Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, Outstanding Flying Unit Awards and

Governor's Outstanding Unit Awards to back up any claim. I have been a witness to the dramatic transformation from a 1968 Strategic Reserve organization, one in place purely as a potential back up to the Air force, where we got hand-me-down airplanes, to today's organization that is now fit-to-fight, a match for anyone anywhere and anytime. Recently, for the first time ever, we received MQ-1 Predator's right off the assembly line at General Atomics for our Flying Training Unit (FTU) at Southern California Logistics Airport - what a transition. The professionalism swing from the early years of the Air National Guard has also been dramatic. Then, attitudes, haircuts, fitness and uniforms were sometimes marginal and many personnel were just doing their “Guard Weekend Warrior Service” to avoid the draft. Now, as an Operational Reserve and an all volunteer force, we look and perform just like, or better than, the Active Air Force. Many, if not most, members of the organization have either served on Active Duty or have performed one or more Aerospace Expeditionary Force (AEF) deployments contributing fully to the defeat of the enemies that would intend harm to the United States. I have been in place to observe a dramatic

transition. The wing's proven track record positions it well for a very bright future in the Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) business or any opportunity that may present itself.

I must say that after nearly 42 years in the Air National Guard my life is pretty tightly entwined with the 163d Reconnaissance Wing and its people and I will miss coming to work here every day. An emotional and heavy personal transition will ensue when I walk out the door and hang up the uniform for the last time at the end of March. It has been a great privilege to have been a member of this wing and to have served with all of you. Only a very small percentage of our society chooses military service and our citizenry counts on that small number to protect the nation from all our enemies foreign and domestic. I can't think of a higher calling than this that we share. Once again, Thank You, for all you do, all you will continue to do and all you have done for me. I wish you both personal and professional continued success in the future and look forward to hearing with great pride about your future accomplishments.

May God bless the 163d and may God continue to bless the United States of America.



New Wing Vice CC and MXG CC

December 22 Col. Randall Ball announced former MXG CC, Col. Charles “Chuck” Manley the 2nd, will take the position as vice CC. Announced shortly thereafter, Colonel Ball said Col. Kirby Colas will replace Colonel Manley as the 163 MXG CC. Colonel Ball explained that both individuals bring a wealth of leadership experience, vision and mission focus to their respective positions.



Brig. Gen. Kight takes command of Calif. NG

Brandon Honig

Calif. National Guard, Joint Headquarters

Air Force Brig. Gen. Mary J. Kight assumed command of the California National Guard this month, breaking barriers for minorities and stepping into the shoes of a revered general.

Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II relinquished command Feb. 2 during a ceremony at Mather Air Field, Calif. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger named Kight the new adjutant general of the Cal Guard, calling her a proven, courageous, loyal and honorable leader.

“General Kight has been described as a strong leader, a hard worker, a pioneer,” Schwarzenegger said. “Everybody who’s served with her says, ‘You’re doing such an unbelievable job.’ She says, ‘I’m just doing my job.’”

“Like General Wade, she will be a wartime leader and will face tough challenges,” he continued, “but General Kight, I have confidence in your ability and leadership.”

Kight is the first woman to serve as adjutant general of the Cal Guard; she formerly served as its first female assistant adjutant general. She is the first African-American woman to serve as adjutant general in the United States.

“Mary, it has been my distinct honor and pleasure to serve with you during some of the most troubling yet most rewarding times in our Guard’s history,” Wade said. “You have been an outstanding assistant adjutant general, and I know you will make a great adjutant general. ... Our guard, our state and our nation win with a true top performer like Brigadier General Mary Kight.”

Wade oversaw a period of great change after taking command in Sep-

tember 2005. During his tenure the Cal Guard transformed from a strategic reserve to a globally deployable operational force. He also spearheaded a wide range of improvements in benefits and family care. Wade stepped down as adjutant general to become deputy chief of staff for operations, Joint Forces Command-Naples, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

“General Wade, because of your passion for the Guard and [your] absolute belief in leaders at every level – both in the officer ranks and enlisted ranks – we have proven that we are always ready and we are always there,” Kight said, referencing the National Guard’s motto. “Members serving Joint Forces Command-Naples will learn in a short period of time that Major General Wade is a visionary leader, results-oriented, compassionate and sincere.”

Schwarzenegger presented Wade the California Legion of Merit medal during the change of command ceremony. The governor thanked Wade for his friendship and extraordinary service, saying he had taken the finest National Guard in the country and made it better. Among other contributions, Schwarzenegger noted Cal Guard achievements in Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan; on the U.S.-Mexico border; in the Gulf Coast region following Hurricane Katrina; and throughout California in support of firefighting agencies. He also said Wade created one of the most comprehensive mental health programs in the U.S. and fought to secure education benefits for Cal Guard members.

The day, however, belonged to Kight, who received numerous standing ovations from the crowd of more

than 500 in attendance. Kight, who began her military career in the active duty Air Force in 1974, deflected praise of her unique achievements for minority service members.

“I heard some words before this ceremony about changes and some of the ‘firsts.’ But this is about us,” she said. “This is about acknowledgement of the California National Guard.

“My mother always taught me, ‘Do your job, mind your own business.’ And I’ve always done that,” she said. “I focus on service.”

Kight added that her background includes Filipino, Native American and Spanish heritage as well. “So it’s not so much, from my perspective, more opportunities for African-Americans, more opportunities for women – it’s just that there are more opportunities [in the Cal Guard] for people overall.”

Kight joined the Cal Guard in 1984 after serving in the active duty Air Force and the Nebraska Air National Guard. Among other duties, she has served as commander of the 144th Aircraft Generation Squadron, the 144th Mission Support Group and the 201st Mission Support Squadron’s detachment for members on Title 10 status. In November 2004, Kight became the assistant adjutant general for the Cal Guard’s Air Division. Then in February 2006, she became the assistant adjutant general for the California National Guard, serving as Wade’s top adviser.

“General Wade, thank you for your trust and your faith in me and mentoring me,” Kight said. “The team that’s here is a team that has already proven that we can respond to the call but also take care of our people and plan for the future. So we’re set.”

Grizzlies Give Veterans Early Valentines Day Gifts

Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette

163d Reconnaissance Wing Public Affairs

Members of the 163d Reconnaissance Wing gave Veterans at the Loma Linda VA Medical Center an early Valentines Day present by handing out cards at the hospital Feb. 10, as part of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Week.

The National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans Program was established in March 1978 and is celebrated each year, during the week of Feb. 14. It's an official Department of Veterans Affairs program and its purpose is to pay tribute and express appreciation to hospitalized vets; to increase community awareness of the role of the medical center and to

encourage individuals to visit hospitalized vets and to become involved as volunteers.

"This is the first year the hospital has had uniformed servicemem-

"I met vets from all branches and I really enjoyed being able to bring smiles to the veterans' faces, and learning about their stories while they served their country,"

Staff Sgt. Al Dupont
163d Force Support Squadron

bers come out as part of this special event," said Diana Gellentien, Chief of Voluntary Services at the Loma Linda VA Medical Center. "During

this week long event, we set aside one day for our servicemembers to come visit the veterans."

The 163 RW members that participated were allowed to volunteer for one hour during their normal duty day.

Gellentien, a seven year Air Force veteran, said the response was overwhelming and they expected more than 100 servicemembers from all branches to participate in their military day.

The cards that the volunteers were handing out were donated to the hospital by local schools. Some of the cards were even hand made by students.

"I met vets from all branches and I really enjoyed being able to bring smiles to the veterans' faces, and learning about their stories while they served their country," said 163d Force Support Squadron member Staff Sgt. Al Dupont. "If I have the opportunity next year to volunteer, I will definitely do it again."

As a courtesy, members of the Red Cross made gift-bags and gave them to the veteran and servicemember volunteers as they finished their shift.

Not only does the medical center help to preserve the lives of over 67,000 veterans a year, but it employs them in daily operations. Between the hospital and the cemetery, they have over 1,600 volunteers.

"It's truly been an incredible day. The veterans love to see and hear from members currently serving," said Gellentien. "They also love hearing thank you for your service. I'm definitely going to do this again next year and possibly try do something more for the vets."



Photo by Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette

Ben Martin B. Rice accepts a valentines card from 163d Reconnaissance Wing member, Staff Sgt. Al Dupont. The visit was part of the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans. Members of the 163d Reconnaissance Wing visited the Loma Linda VA Medical Center to pass out valentines cards, February 10, 2010. Martin served in the Army for three years and he was one of the first soldiers trained to use a computer. He served in Vietnam. He also worked on the first automatic teller bank card code. At the time someone told him you would be able to put a plastic card in a machine and take money, to which he replied, "I don't believe you."

Headquarters Element receives new First Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette

163d Reconnaissance Wing Public Affairs

The last 163d Reconnaissance Wing's headquarters element first sergeant, Master Sergeant Michael Shacklett, retired in March of 2009. Since then the element has been without a first sergeant. But answering the call now, is Master Sgt. Gilbert Sanchez.

The former 163d Medical Group first sergeant served five years on active duty in the munitions career field. He was stationed at Moody Air Force Base, GA and at Kadena Air Base, Japan. In 1998, he made the transition to the California Air National Guard and joined the 163d Air Refueling Wing, initially spending nine years in the 163d Logistics Readiness Squadron. From



there, he moved on to become the 163 MDG first shirt.

"I am honored to work with all of you in Headquarters," said Sergeant Sanchez. "My cubicle is always open and I am here to help all of you."

In his civilian life, Sergeant Sanchez is a high school science teacher and has been teaching in the Whittier Unified School District for ten years.

"I was born and raised in Whittier, Calif.," said Sergeant Sanchez. "And I still live there today. I'm actually neighbors with Chaplain 1st Lt. David Sarmiento."

"Although I know many of you, it is very different working side by side. And for those I do not yet know, I look forward to meeting you," said Sergeant Sanchez. "February was my second drill in Headquarters and I wanted to thank you all for the job you do and the professionalism you show. I have heard numerous compliments about Headquarters and the wing is aware that everyone here gets things done."

Jr. Grizzly "Soccer Angel" brings joy to Iraqi Children



Children from Iraq received soccer balls that were sent out Jan. 29 by Denali, daughter of Maj. Christopher Linton, who raised the money to purchase the balls all by herself. (A photo of her packaging the soccer balls can be seen on page 7 of the February 2010 On Guard issue.) "My buddy Senior Airman Bobby Evans (pictured) went outside the wire to distribute those soccer balls," said Master Sgt. William Chang, 297th ATCS, Hawaii Air National Guard. Sergeant Chang sent the photo back so their "Soccer Angel" could see the smiling faces of the children in Iraqi who received the balls. For more information regarding Operation Soccer Ball, visit www.operationsoccerball.org. (Photo submitted by Master Sgt. William Chang, U.S. Air Force)

Billeting Hotline Number!

Members with issues, complaints, or concerns regarding billeting reservations or contracted rooms, or who need to cancel their rooms last-minute can contact the first sergeant's on-call hotline number at **(951) 453-7620**. The phone line is active beginning Friday afternoon and continuing through the Sunday morning of each drill weekend. To cancel a reservation during the month, please contact your unit lodging POC.

ID Card Lost/Damage Procedures

The Military Personnel Element, or customer service section, is strictly enforcing the provision outlined in AFI 36-3026 on the loss, theft or destruction procedures of an ID Card. For a replacement card, the MPE will provide a standard memorandum to be completed by the member and commander in order to be issued a new ID card. Two forms of proper identification are required at time of issuance. Some acceptable documents

are US passports, Permanent Resident Cards, Driver's license, School ID with photo, Social Security Card, Birth Certificate and Native American Tribal document. Expired documents are not authorized. Refer to Form I-9 for a full list of acceptable documents.

Diversity Committee

The Equal Opportunity office is forming a Diversity Committee and would like to invite everyone to join. Diversity is not limited to race, color, national origin, sex or religion. It encompasses life experiences, socioeconomic backgrounds, geographical background, single or married, educational background and employment sector, etc. The goal of this group is to promote education and awareness of the diversity within the unit. How we go about reaching our goal is entirely up to the group. For more information contact the EO staff at Jessica.huerta@ang.af.mil or kel.thedel@ang.af.mil.

Free Tax Consultation, E-Filing MilitaryOneSource offers a

Mail Room Move

We have officially moved the mailroom from building 2270 to building 2272. Please do not drop off any mail for on or off base distribution at building 2270. The new mail drop box is located by the Client Support Center window in building 2272. You will be able to access the building through the front door and the back corner door which faces Meyer Dr.

Unit Mail Clerks

The boxes are listed by office symbol and not by suite number. You will still be able to use the suite number with your mailing address. Each box has a new combination, please stop by our office (opposite the Client Support Center window) to get your new combination. Our new office does not have access to the inside of your mail boxes like the old office. The mail is only accessible from the hallway.

Only those individuals listed on the appointment letter will be given the combinations.

If you have any questions call (951) 655-2558.

NEW CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS

NEW Customer Service hours effective March 1, 2010. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.. Wednesday's 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. only, they're closed in the afternoon for training. Closed daily from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch.

UTA hours are Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.. Sunday they're open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m..

Fallen Airman's Estate

Captain Amanda Herrington of the 163d Reconnaissance Wing lived a great life and has passed from us on Feb. 8, 2010. All claims for or against the Estate of Captain Herrington should step forward. You may make your request through Lt. Col. James Sumners (163 RW). He may be reached at james.sumners@ang.af.mil or (951) 655-5492.

simple and easy way to get tax consultation and file your federal and state taxes online for free. For more information, visit www.militaryonesource.com.

Free Antivirus

As a military member, one of the benefits available to you is free antivirus programs for use on your home PC. For more information contact your Client Support Administrator.

Free 2010 Military Handbooks

The 2010 military handbooks are now available to download for free. The handbook list includes: 2010 Getting Uncle Same to Pay for Your College; 2010 US Military Retired Handbook; 2010 After the Military Handbook; 2010 Military Children's Scholarship Handbook; 2010 Base Installation Directory; 2010 Guard & Reserve Handbook; 2010 Veterans Healthcare Handbook; 2010 Benefits for Veterans and Dependents and 2010 United States military Handbook. To download them, visit www.militaryhandbooks.com.

Lowe's Offers Military Discount 24/7

Lowe's Companies, Inc. announced Feb. 10, it will expand its support of the military by offering an all day, every day 10 percent discount to all military personnel who are active, reserve, retired or disabled veterans and their family members, with a valid, government-issued military ID card.

Family Readiness Symposium, Military Ball Postponed

The 2010 Family Readiness Symposium and Military Ball, previously scheduled for April 9 and 10, have been postponed.

For up-to-date information on the two events, visit the California National Guard's website at www.ca.ang.af.mil

Chaplain Corps Inspiration

Greeting Grizzlies,

As we embark on the month of March, we have already overcome many challenges, including the loss of two fine unit members, Capt. Joe Gauthier and Capt. Amanda Herrington. However more than ever we must endeavor to press on. Life ebbs and flows with opportunities for us to succeed and yet we never truly know how close we are to our blessing, it may just be around the corner. The holy scriptures tell us, "let us not become weary in doing well, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9, NIV). Remember the Chaplain Corps team is here to help you through any challenge, and can be reached at (951) 655-5404, Monday- Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or on the duty cell phone at (951) 236-0496.

Blessings,
163d Chaplain Corps

"Nothing in the world can take the place of Persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and Determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan "Press On" has solved and will always solve the problems of the human race." Calvin Coolidge (1872-1933); 30th Us President

Chapel Service Schedule

Protestant Service

Sunday UTA, 12 to 12:30 p.m. Chaplain Sarmiento in the Ops. Aircrew Briefing Room.

Catholic Mass

Sunday UTA, 11 - 11:50 a.m. Father McNally in the Base Chapel.

Catholic Reconciliation

Sunday UTA, 12 - 12:30 p.m. following Mass in the Base Chapel.



UTA WEEKEND MENU

If you are authorized lodging Friday before the unit training assembly, you qualify for breakfast, lunch and dinner Saturday, also breakfast and lunch Sunday. Meals not served at the Hap Arnold Club will be provided by Tom's #1 Burger, with orders.

MENU FOR March 6

Lunch - 11 a.m. 1 p.m.

Fried Chicken
Baked Red Snapper
Whipped Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Buttered Corn
Brown Gravy
Soup of The Day
Dinner Rolls with Butter
Assorted Salads &
Dressings
Assorted Desserts
Assorted Beverages

MENU FOR March 7

Lunch - 11 a.m. 1 p.m.

Grilled Pork Chops
Corned Beef & Cabbage
Whole Potatoes
Steamed Rice
Green Beans
Brown Gravy
Soup of The Day
Dinner Rolls with Butter
Assorted Salads &
Dressings
Assorted Desserts
Assorted Beverages

Congratulations "Grizzly" Promotions



Norma Castaneda

163d Force Support Squadron

Ryan Williams

163d Operations Group



Michael Eddolls

163d Operations Support Flight

Willem Vanderrest

163d Civil Engineer Squadron

BEST & BRIGHTEST



Congratulations to Master Sgt. Eric Buchanan who scored a 91 percent on the Craftsman Weather course.

Hats off to Master Sgt. Timothy Hoang who scored a 94 percent on a SNCO Academy test.

Congratulations to Capt. Keith Krolczyk for completing Squadron Officer School with a 92 percent.

A job-well-done goes to Master Sgt. Nathan Brown who scored a 94 percent on one of the tests for the SNCO Academy.



The **ON GUARD** is proudly published for the members of the 163d Reconnaissance Wing and their families.

Commander

Col. Randall Ball

Public Affairs Office

Maj. Brenda Hendricksen

Capt. Al Bosco

Master Sgt. Stanley Thompson

Master Sgt. Julie Avey

Tech. Sgt. Joseph Prouse

Tech. Sgt. Diane Ducat

Staff Sgt. Kelly Hobby

Staff Sgt. Ines Jasso

Staff Sgt. Paul Duquette

The **ON GUARD** is the official newsletter published by and for the members of the 163d Reconnaissance Wing, March ARB, Calif. The contents of the **ON GUARD** are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, DOD, Department of the Air Force or the 163 RW.



Commander's Straight talk

The *Straight Talk* hotline can be reached at (951) 655-4758, or feedback can be emailed to 163rw.pa.straighttalk@ang.af.mil

2010 March Spring Fling

Spring Fling will be held March 6, Saturday of UTA, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. There will be an Easter Egg Hunt, face painting, bouncers, a visit from the Easter Bunny as well as appetizers and pastries. Non-mission essential volunteers and unit members who have children attending will be excused during the event time frame. For information regarding volunteering and food, please contact the Family Readiness Coordinator, Debbie Hambrick at (951) 655-2165.

UPCOMING UNIT TRAINING ASSEMBLIES



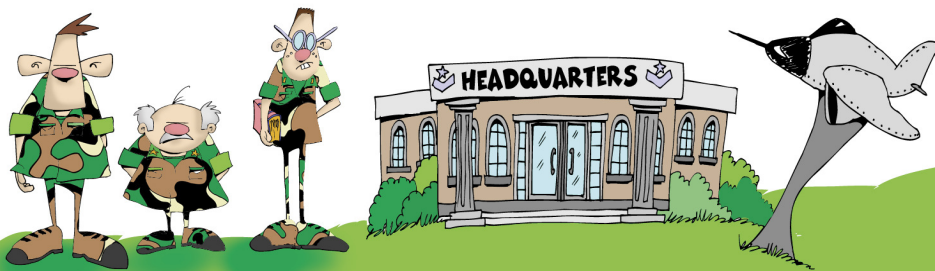
Mar	Apr	May	June
6-7	10-11	15-16	5-6



Contact your supervisor if you are unable to attend

OFF GUARD

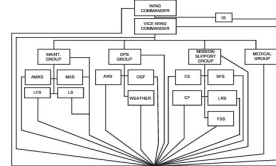
By
Master Sgt
Stan Thompson



Uh, Sir...
What is that Dot?



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



COMMANDER

That Dot would
be you, now
answer the phone!

